2007-05109/

MP Richard Harris announces funding in Prince Rupert to help feed the city's homeless

PRINCE RUPERT, BRITISH COLUMBIA, February 1, 2007 - Richard Harris, MP Cariboo-Prince George, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development , announced $14,940 for the Annunciation Church Soup Kitchen project in Prince Rupert.

"Canada's New Government is working to ensure funding is available for projects like this one, to address the challenges of homelessness in communities across the country," said Mr. Harris. "Today, I am pleased to announce this project which will provide homeless individuals in Prince Rupert with support and free hot meals every Sunday."

This funding will be provided to the Roman Catholic Episcopal of Prince Rupert's Annunciation Church, to ensure 85-100 clients in-need can receive a hot meal service each week in the church's soup kitchen.
In addition to purchasing food and kitchen supplies, the church will use the funding to repair the roof and entrance of the soup kitchen facility, as well as to maintain the furnace system to provide clients with a warm environment.

"The Annunciation Church is proud to work in partnership with the Government of Canada and the Roman Catholic Episcopal of Prince Rupert to assist those most in need in our community," said Honesto Leonin, Soup Kitchen Coordinator. "The services we offer here are meant to provide the immediate necessities for homeless people, and help them to break out of the cycle of homelessness."
This project has been developed in consultation with the community and various stakeholders. The project addresses one of the priorities of the Prince Rupert Steering Committee on Aboriginal Homelessness - to enhance the meal programs for homeless people and those at risk of homelessness in Prince Rupert.

The funding is a part of the Government of Canada's Urban Aboriginal Homelessness Initiative.

In December 2006, Canada's New Government launched the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy. For more information on this announcement, please visit www.homelessness.gc.ca.

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All times are reflected in Atlantic time

Date Modified: 2007-02-01